

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:580
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2002
SHIP REPAIR FACILITIES
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up an Expert Group on Shipping to recommend the ways to improve ship repair facilities in the country ;
- (b) if so, whether this Expert Group has submitted its report ;
- (c) if so, the details thereof ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that lack of standardisation in ship repair facilities is hampering shipping sector ; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to standardise all ship repair operations in the country ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVAKKARASAR)

(a) to (c) This Ministry had constituted an Apex Committee on Shipbuilding under the Chairmanship of Director General (Shipping) in the year 1998 and the Report was received in April, 2000. Amongst several recommendations, the Apex Committee had recommended that ship repair facilities in the country should be strengthened and modernisation facilitated by giving infrastructure status to the ship repair industry.

(d) No, Sir. It is mainly due to the fact that the scale of repairing facilities which are available in India is not sufficient to handle large scale repairing effectively such as dry docking of vessels etc. Therefore, Indian Shipowners prefer to get their ships repaired abroad.

(e) The steps taken/proposed to be taken to standardise all ship repair operations in the country are as under :

1. The ship repair facilities which are presently available in India are much smaller compared to those of Singapore, Dubai and China. Only when large infrastructure on ship repairing is available and there is sufficient and series of orders for ship repairs, there can be scope for standardisation of ship repair operations. However, efforts are being made by Shipyards to standardise the ship repair operations. Ship repair facilities at two major Shipyards under the administrative control of Ministry of Shipping viz. Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin and Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam are being modernised as per Plan Schemes. Ship repair facilities at Ports of Mumbai and Calcutta have also been modernised.

2 'Standardisation of Equipment and Machinery' at design and construction stage helps in reducing the time and cost of ship repair and maintenance to the Shipping sector. National Ship Design and Research Centre (NSDRC) which is an autonomous Society under the administrative control of this Ministry is actively involved in standardisation of all major machinery and equipment like Main Engines, Generator Sets, Compressors and Pumps, GMDSS Equipment etc. of 18 Vessels for A&N Administration.

3. The information availability regarding various factors like ship repair history of the vessel, availability of various equipment/machinery/spares in the market etc. would help achieve reduction in time, cost reduction in ship repair operations. NSDRC developed a software 'Dry Docking Information Retrieval System' which helps in keeping track of the ship repair history of the vessels and its equipment which helps owners in preparation for the future repairs. NSDRC has also developed a software package 'Planned Maintenance System' which exclusively caters to the maintenance of the major equipment. The above two packages are intended to help the owners in anticipation and preparation of the maintenance requirements of the vessel which in turn saves time and cost. Further, NSDRC is participating with BIS and ISO/TC8 of ISO to develop 'Product Structure Directory standard for ships'.